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July 27, 2005

2005 JUL 27 PM 4:22
S.C. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
RECEIVED

Mr. Charles L.A. Terreni
Chief Clerk/Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

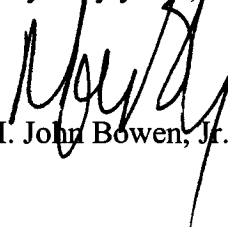
**Re: *Petition of MCI metro Access Transmission Services, LLC for Arbitration of
Certain Terms and Conditions of Proposed Agreement with Horry Telephone
Company, Concerning Interconnection and Resale under the Telecommunications
Act of 1996
SC PSC Docket No. 2005-188-C***

Dear Mr. Terreni:

Enclosed is a Joint Motion Regarding Procedure being submitted for filing on behalf of Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. and MCI metro Access Transmission Services, LLC in the above-referenced Docket. Please return the second copy of this Joint Motion date stamped and marked "filed" for our records.

Should you have any questions with respect to this matter, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Very truly yours,


M. John Bowen, Jr.

MJBjr:bw

cc: Darra W. Cothran
Kennard B. Woods
Joseph M. Melchers
Benjamin P. Mustian

**BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2005-188-C**

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COMM
FILED

In Re: Petition of MCImetro Access Transmission)
Services, LLC for Arbitration of Certain Terms)
and Conditions of Proposed Agreement with)
Horry Telephone Company, Concerning)
Interconnection and Resale under the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996)
_____)

JOINT MOTION REGARDING PROCEDURE

Horry Telephone Company (“Horry”) and MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC (“MCI”) respectfully and jointly submit this Motion regarding procedural matters in the above-captioned proceeding. The Office of Regulatory Staff does not oppose this motion and concurs in the requests made herein.

A. Motion to Extend the Timeframe for Resolving the Unresolved Issues.

For the reasons stated herein, the parties request that the Commission extend the timeframe for resolving the unresolved issues in this docket for three months, from October 10, 2005 to on or about January 11, 2006. This request is made on the following grounds:

1. Section 252(b)(4)(C) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (“the Act”) provides that the Commission “shall conclude the resolution of any unresolved issues not later than 9 months after the date on which the local exchange carrier received the request under this section.” The Commission has previously found that date to be October 10, 2005. See Order No. 2005-362 at p. 2. However, the deadline established by the Act

exists for the benefit of the parties, and the only consequence for non-compliance with the deadline is that a party may go to the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) for resolution. In this case, the parties agree to the extended timeframe and further agree that they will waive (1) their right to petition the FCC under Section 252(e)(5) for a failure to act by the Commission within the statutory deadline, and (2) their right to raise the failure to act within the statutory deadline on any appeal, if the Motion is granted.

2. Consistent with this Commission’s recent prior precedent in Docket No. 2005-57-C, the Commission may allow a waiver of the application of the nine-month deadline set forth in Section 252(a)(4)(C) of the Act, when the parties have mutually agreed and requested that the Commission do so.

3. Granting the proposed waiver would be in the best interest of all parties and the Commission, because it would allow adequate time for the parties to file post-hearing briefs and proposed orders and for the Commission to deliberate this matter.

B. Motion to Adopt Modified Procedure for Conduct of Hearing.

The parties have agreed to respectfully request that the Commission adopt the following modifications to the procedure for the conduct of the hearing in this docket that was previously described in Commission Order No. 2005-167:

1. At the beginning of the hearing, each witness will have the opportunity to present an overall summary of his or her testimony, subject to a limitation of 15 minutes per witness. When the examination of the witnesses on an issue-by-issue basis begins, the witness(es) for each side may present a summary of the issue being addressed, subject to a limitation of 2 minutes per side per issue. In the event the parties mutually agree to group

issues together for discussion purposes, the limit will be based on the number of issues that are grouped together (e.g., if 4 issues are grouped together, each side may present a summary not to exceed 8 minutes in length regarding that group of issues).

2. Following the presentation of a witness's summary of the issue being addressed, the witness will be subject to cross-examination by the ORS.

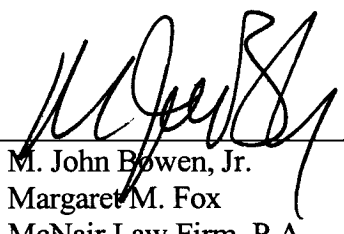
3. Following the ORS's cross-examination, the witness will be subject to questions from the Commission.

4. Following questions from the Commission, the witness will be subject to cross-examination by the remaining party.

WHEREFORE, the parties respectfully request that the Commission grant this Joint Motion Regarding Procedure, as described herein, and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 27th day of July, 2005.

By: _____


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CORAL GABLES